



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUN -5 2006

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
House of Representatives
Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6216

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Committee on the Judiciary

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request Case No. 200503112

Dear Mr. Conyers:

This is in response to your letters of April 19 and 21, regarding the status of the Department's fee waiver determination on your FOIA request of June 30, 2005.

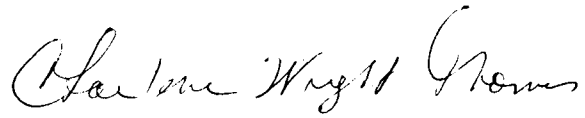
We are continuing our review of records responsive to your request and hope to make a determination on your fee waiver, barring unforeseen circumstances, in the near future. As you may be aware, fee waivers may be granted in those instances where the disclosure of the requested information will potentially result in a significant contribution to the public's understanding of the activities and operations of the government. We are unable to make a final decision prior to making disclosure determinations on various categories of records. Once such determinations are made, we can then discern if the foregoing standard can be met through the release of "disclosable" records.

Our review of the fee waiver question will not delay the processing of your request. As you are aware, we have made two releases to you to date, which have consisted of documents retrieved from the Bureau of Public Affairs and the Department's Central Foreign Policy files (the principal record system of the Department of State).

Again, we will continue our review in as timely and complete a manner as possible. Please be assured that your fee waiver request will be given full consideration under our regulations and the FOIA statute. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to have a member of your staff contact me directly at (202) 663-1460.

Thank you for your continued patience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charlene Wright Thomas". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and legible.

Charlene Wright Thomas
Chief, Requester Liaison Division